

What is claimed is:

- 1        1. An apparatus interposed in a telephone line for defeating predictive dialing  
2           telemarketing systems, comprising:  
3                 an off-hook detector connected to the telephone line;  
4                 an audio energy generator producing a signal imitating the energy associated with  
5                 an answering machine greeting;  
6                 a switch interposed between said audio energy generator and the telephone; and  
7                 a controller interposed between said off-hook detector and said switch for  
8                 activating said switch to interconnect said audio energy generator to said phone line upon  
9                 receipt of an incoming call.
  
- 1        2. The apparatus for defeating predictive dialing telemarketing systems according  
2           to claim 1, wherein said audio energy generator continually produces said signal.
  
- 1        3. The apparatus for defeating predictive dialing telemarketing systems according  
2           to claim 1, wherein said controller is interconnected with said audio energy generator,  
3           said controller activating said audio energy generator to produce said signal upon receipt  
4           of said incoming call.
  
- 1        4. A method for defeating predictive dialing telemarketing systems, comprising:  
2                 sensing an incoming call on a telephone line;  
3                 generating a signal imitating the energy associated with an answering machine  
4                 greeting; and  
5                 placing said signal upon said telephone line each time an incoming call is sensed.
  
- 1        5. The method for defeating predictive dialing telemarketing systems according to  
2           claim 4, wherein said signal is continuously generated.

1        6        The method for defeating predictive dialing telemarketing systems according to  
2        claim 4, wherein said signal is generated upon said sensing of an incoming call.